

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A multi-position sleeping structure comprising:
    - a sheet material envelope having an opening into a cavity defined therein;
    - an inflatable mattress received and substantially enclosed within the cavity of the sheet material envelope, the mattress being inflatable between an inflated in-use condition and a deflated storage condition; and
    - a cover portion which, in conjunction with a top surface of the envelope, defines a sleeping area in which a person can lie and be supported by the mattress, the cover portion being movable between a first position to substantially enclose the person within the sleeping area and a second position to allow the person to get into or out of the sleeping area of the sleeping structure,wherein the mattress has a plurality of transversely extending hinges that separate the mattress into a first portion, a second portion, and a third portion, the hinges allowing the mattress to be moved between at least (a) a substantially flat sleeping position and (b) a seating position in which the second portion is folded upwardly with respect to the third portion that remains substantially flat, and the first portion is folded downwardly with respect to the second portion such that the first portion is substantially adjacent to the second portion so that the third portion defines a seat base and the first and second portions define a seat back, and
  - wherein the sheet material envelope has a retaining pouch on a bottom side thereof that is positioned to receive the first portion of the mattress when in the seating position so as to retain the mattress in the seating position.
2. The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 1, wherein the hinges allow the mattress to be moved into a propped-up position wherein the first portion of the mattress is folded upwardly with respect to the second and third portions that remain substantially flat.
  3. The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 1, wherein the retaining pouch has a resiliently biased edge that engages the first portion of the mattress within the sheet material envelope so as to retain the mattress in the seating position.

4. The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 1, wherein each of the hinges have gaps that allow the passage of air through the first, second, and third portions of the mattress for inflation and deflation via a valve.

5. The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 1, wherein one of the hinges is wider than the other of the hinges.

6. The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 1, wherein the mattress includes a pillow portion which is inflatable as part of the mattress and the sheet material envelope having formed therein a pillow receiving portion for the acceptance of the pillow portion of the mattress.

7. The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 6, wherein the mattress includes a series of side by side inflatable sections and, at one end thereof, the pillow portion with longitudinal side walls of the side by side inflatable sections running perpendicularly to longitudinal side walls of the pillow portion, the side by side inflatable sections and the pillow portion being interconnected to allow the passage of air for inflation and deflation via a valve, and when inflated, the height of the pillow portion being greater than the height of a remainder of the mattress.

8. The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 7, wherein the valve is located on the pillow portion of the mattress and extends through an opening provided in the pillow receiving portion of the sheet material envelope.

9. The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 6, wherein the cover portion includes an image thereon comprising at least one of a character, animal or shape.

10. The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 9, wherein the pillow receiving portion is provided with at least one three-dimensional element attached thereto to depict a character, animal or shape that is associated with the character, animal or shape depicted by the cover portion.

11. The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 1, wherein one side edge and a foot end edge of the cover portion is attached to the sheet material envelope and an opposing side edge, opposite the one side edge, is selectively and releasably attached to the sheet material envelope by a zipper to retain the cover portion in the first position.